FLORIDA AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM Statewide Conference Call on Medicare Part D August 23, 2011

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

AIDS Drug Assistance Program

County Roll Call: Alachua, Bay, Bradford, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Desoto, Duval, Hendry/Glades, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Lee, Leon, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Seminole, St. John, St. Lucie, Volusia

Invitees: Part A, Lead Agencies, Community Case Managers, ADAP Staff

Headquarters Participants: Joe May, Brenda Andrews. Jimmy Llaque, Lorraine Wells, Steven Badura, Debbie Taylor, Roxanne Sieks, Justin Ferrill, Sheila Price, Ivan Cook, Robbie Bouplon, Ken Hart

HURRICANE EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS:

Participants were reminded about Hurricane Irene and the need to take emergency precautions. Stephanie Brown provided the following information:

- We are in hurricane preparedness mode now.
- If you order from the Central Pharmacy, get a list of clients who are due to pick up within the next couple of weeks and order those medications.
- Follow this same process if you have a local pharmacy.
- If a client is not due to pick up this week, they can pick up at their normal time, you would just have their medications early.

RECOGNITIONS:

Lorraine took a moment to recognize Frank Didiano, Rita Volpitta, George Dowden, Ann Mercer, and David Riggs and thanked for sharing their expertise on Medicare Part D.

PHARMACY BENEFITS MANAGER (PBM):

In July 2011, ADAP contracted with CVS/Caremark to serve as Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM). As PBM, CVS/Caremark will provide assistance to Medicare Part D clients in covering TrOOP (True-Out-of-Pocket) costs.

As part of Legislative requirements and guidance from HRSA, ADAPs are required to establish a data sharing agreement with Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS). CMS is the entity that manages Medicare Part D. Working in collaboration with CMS we are able to connect to their database in order to share data electronically. This enables us to identify clients who have Medicare Part D or those who are eligible but have not signed up for the plan.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:

September 1st is the anticipated date for the Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) implementation. There are 528 clients who have Medicare Part D that will be transferred to CVS for services.

ADAP clients who are eligible for Medicare Part D, but have **not** signed up for Medicare Part D, will be notified in the upcoming weeks to sign-up during open enrollment. If a client chooses not to accept a Medicare Part D plan he/she will not be eligible for services beginning January 2012. Stress the importance of clients being able to utilize their plan for other medications.

Low Income Subsidy:

Clients whose income levels are between 135% and 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), must apply for Low Income Subsidy (LIS).

ADAP PREMIUM PLUS

ADAP Premium Plus is a component in the ADAP program created to assist clients who have insurance coverage such as Medicare Part D or private insurance.

In the interim, Central Pharmacy has been filling prescriptions on behalf of the Medicare Part D clients. By now, county staff should have submitted prescriptions of all Medicare Part D clients' currently in the ADAP program to Central Pharmacy for service. Central Pharmacy has been collecting the necessary prescription data that has to go to CMS so that those dollars will count toward TrOOP for those clients.

NOTIFICATION TO CLIENTS:

Central Pharmacy is helping notify clients of the transfer to CVS by placing flyers in their medication bags. Information will be coming in different formats and through different venues so that every single person will be aware that this is happening.

Welcome packets are being disseminated to the county health department staff which includes:

- The client's CVS ID card.
- A letter informing them of the program.
- ▶ Another letter providing contact information and information on how to choose the method by which they would want to receive their medication.

Prescription transfers must be done via Central Pharmacy and CVS Pharmacy (pharmacy to pharmacy only). Clients who need a new prescription can obtain one from their doctor. It can be faxed or sent via e-prescribing and/or called in.

RECERTIFICATION:

ADAP Premium Plus clients must recertify timely every six months to avoid noncompliance. Managers should continue to monitor to alert clients prior to recertification deadlines. Client prescriptions should always be kept on file. If a client's prescription expires prior to recertification he or she should present a new prescription for filing.

CLIENT STATEWIDE CONFERENCE CALL:

The date for client conference call is <u>September 8 at 6:30 – 8:30 (ET</u>). A representative from CVS will be on the call to answer questions. Because of privacy and the limited number of lines, this call is dedicated to ADAP Premium Plus clients only.

With no further questions the meeting was adjourned.